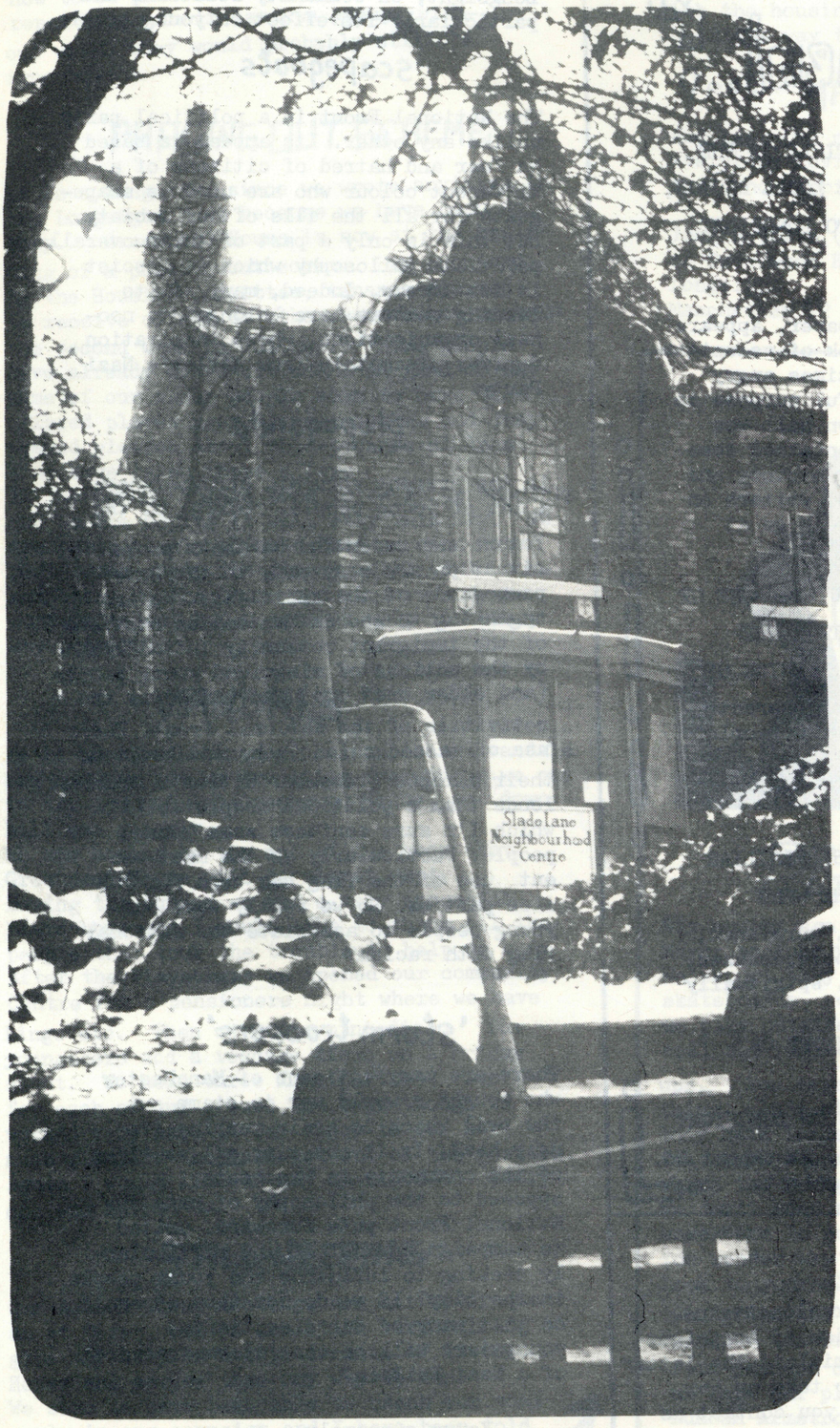
Longsight News.

(MARCH — APRIL 1978) No.18. a community newspaper for Longsight.

STILL ONLY 5p



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and lots more!...

» » » »

LONGSIGHT NEWS IS CLOSING DOWN?

Well, that's the way it seemed — but some people got together to produce this issue. It would be great if there was enough support to produce another issue, and another .... and another..... so anyone who'd like to write something, type, lay-out, help to sell them.... contact us....

642 STOCKPORT ROAD.

Insult or Compliment...?

THERE WAS AN INTERESTING ARTICLE IN THE ST. AGNES PARISH NEWS BY OUR LOCAL RECTOR, MR. HENRY MAYOR, REFERRING TO LONGSIGHT NEWS:

Local Writers

"Longsight News, the local paper, appears to be folding up through lack of volunteer staff. Although it was sometimes angry and vulgar, it served a useful purpose in letting us know what the town hall was planning for the area and contained some interesting bits about local history and personalities. Any frustrated writers on such themes could always have a go at writing for us!"

WE WERE RATHER CONCERNED ABOUT THE USE OF THE WORD 'VULGAR'. ON CONSULTING THE DICTIONARY WE FOUND THAT ONE MEANING OF 'VULGAR' IS: pertaining to, or characteristic of the common people"

WELL, THANKYOU MR. MAYOR, LONG MAY WE CONTINUE TO BE VULGAR!

MANY PEOPLE, HOWEVER, ARE MORE FAMILIAR WITH THE OTHER MEANINGS OF THE WORD 'VULGAR': coarse, common, low, unrefined, rude, boorish, ignoble, debased, pretentious, dirty, spiritually paltry.

SHOULD WE THEREFORE FEEL INSULTED OR COMPLIMENTED?

WE WOULD WELCOME ANY COMMENTS ON LONGSIGHT NEWS. DROP US A LINE: c/o 642, Stockport Rd. Longsight.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Many thanks to the lady in Craston Avenue who wrote to us in appreciation of Longsight News. Unfortunately we have mislaid the letter and address so were unable to take up her offer of help. Please could you contact us again?

C/O 642 Stockport Rd
Longsight, M/C 13.

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a resident of the area and a teacher I feel I must write to deplore the effect of the National Front march on October 8th. through Levenshulme and Longsight, on community relations and particularly its effect on young people.

scapegoats

The National Front is a political party unlike any other. Its appeal is based on fear and hatred of citizens of a different colour who are used as scapegoats for all the ills of our society. But this is only a part of their overall political philosophy which is fascist in its extreme. Indeed, many of its leading members have belonged to neo-nazi organisations whose inspiration derives ultimately from Hitler's Nazi Party.

propoganda

In the present economic circumstances a lot of young people, fearful of the future and resentful of their present situation are easy prey to the hate propoganda of the racialists. We are beginning to see in Manchester sections of the immigrant community intimidated by the actions of misguided young people (and older ones too) encouraged by the activities of the National Front. Their use of massed union jacks and bands on their marches (remember Hitler's rallies?) lends them a political respectability which I'm sure confuses some young people. Particularly as the most recent use of the flag has been for Jubilee parties. Do we really want our young people to associate the national flag with racism?

'storm troopers'

There are many citizens of Manchester who fought a world war to stamp out the evil which is again rearing its ugly head. Is it not time all sections of the community in Manchester, opposed to the philosophy of hate the National Front puts foreward, united to campaign against it and particularly seeking to influence the young people in the city? If we do not then it could be that many of our dissatisfied youngsters will be the 'storm troopers' of a Nazi Britain.

Yours sincerely.
Graham. (name and address supplied)

READERS' LETTERS

GREENWOOD HOUSE NEWS

Greenwood house is the complex of flats behind Belle Vue. They are amongst the many now sub-standard flats which were built shortly after the war. They are now to be phased out, and here is a report from their tenants group, without which they would probably still be ignored.

PHASING OUT SCHEME

It is a long time since we wrote anything in the Longsight News because we have been so busy. Greenwood House is now at the beginning of a phasing out scheme. As promised by the Housing Committee, tenants started to receive offers of other accomodation about the second week in January. Some people have already moved out and I am glad to say some of our older people seem to have been offered places near to one another and they seemed pleased about this because at least four have taken these offers.
At the moment things seem to be going smoothly and we are hoping it will stay this way. We are particularly pleased that as soon as a flat comes empty the direct works dept. come and board up the doors and windows and the superintendant and caretaker help in every way possible.

VANDALS

As is inevitable in any clearance area vandals are at work but we are doing everything we can to try and not let Greenwood House go down hill too quickly.
We are hoping by the end of the year that Greenwood House will be almost empty.
During the summer we had a very succesful Playscheme and I would like to thank all the people that took the trouble to help us out.
After the Playscheme we opened our community Centre for a pensioners night where we have Bingo etc. Then we had a mini-disco for youngsters and a teenage disco on a Friday night. We held three Xmas parties, one for each of our groups and even though we worked very hard it was a joy to see how much pleasure they all got out of the parties.
Again I would like to say thankyou to everyone who helped us.

STILL HELPING

Our Action Group meetings are not as frequent as at first, but we are still very willing to give any help we can to tenants of Greenwood House and advise them any way we can.
We seem to have been able to reach our goal early in our campaign and I have been told many a time by people, that but for our group we might not have been included in a phasing-out scheme for some time.
We had a lot of good help from our community worker Andy Wiggan, and we were very sorry to see him leave for another job in September. But we wish him all the luck in the future. We also had help off quite a few other people connected with the housing and after being contacted in the right way they were very helpful.

'MANY THANKS'

And last but not least we would like to wish everybody moving out of Greenwood House every luck and happiness in their new homes.

Jean Roberts (Chairperson)
44 Greenwood House ,
Longsight
Manchester 12

PLAYGROUNDS...

Six months ago we took a petition to the Lord Mayor because we did not have anywhere to play. We cannot play football, we can't use our skateboards, we can't play cricket. Everytime we play outside the neighbours complain and call the police. It's alright for you grown-ups. You have loads of pubs but we have nothing. It's alright for the dogs because they have loads of trees. All we want are a few small squares dotted around the estate where the young kids can play in safety.
We don't need a big elaborate park, just somewhere to work off our excessive energy.
You wonder why us kids turn into vandals. Look to yourselves and ask yourself what have you given us? Nothing. Do you wonder that windows are broken, trees uprooted and graffiti painted on walls. I don't so please let us have our playgrounds.
Duncan Armstrong Nigel Shaw

LONGSIGHT LIBRARY

LONGSIGHT LIBRARY.

The Library should have opened in the new premises in the District Centre in March, but owing to building delays it is unlikely that the opening will now be earlier than late May or early June.
However, the library staff are making plans and asking people for suggestions about the use of the new building.

- ARTS AND CRAFTS WORKSHOP -

One activity we are very enthusiastic about is an art and craft workshop on one or two evenings a week.
This would be for people of all ages and both sexes and would work on the basis of swapping skills, though of course, people who felt that they had no skills to offer would also be very welcome.

There would be no formal teaching, everyone would help, offer and discover how to do things for themselves.

SUGGESTIONS...

Suggestions already received about the types of arts and crafts which people can offer help with or would like to learn include:
Dressmaking, knitting, crochet, batik and tie-and-dye, simple woodwork, macrame, embroidery, bottle cutting and decorating, collage.....
but of course the list is endless.

BEG, STEAL, AND BORROW...

If we are able to start this activity immediately the building opens up, we need to get more organised now, form a committee and start applying for grants for equipment and materials and also see what we can beg, steal and borrow.

INTERESTED?

If you are interested in helping, please contact Pat Coleman at Levenshulme Library, telephone 224- 2775 or leave a message at Longsight Library.

I should also like to hear from anyone who has any other ideas for, or views about, the new Library.

LIBRARY

• BIRCH NEWS •

Working Parties

We hold regular working parties on the last Saturday of the month between 10.am and 12 noon to repair, maintain and improve the bu building and grounds.
ALL HELP IS VERY WELCOME but we are usually short of tools so ask volunteers to bring their own.
Next Working Party Saturday 25th Feb. 10-12.

Jumble Sale Saturday 4th March

Please bring any jumble to the Centre. Our Finances are in a shakey way.

Gardening Technique and Design

A course of talks given by Tutors from the Extra-Mural Department of Manchester University. Starting at Birch Community Centre on the 3rd April. Anyone who is interested should contact Louise Rhodes, 7 Birch Grove.

Brownies and Guides

Every Friday Brownies from 6.30 pm and Guides from 8.00 pm.

Kung Fu

Sunday Afternoons 2.30 till 5. pm. Kung Fu at 50p a session.

Birch Playgroup

Runs from Birch Community Centre every weekday Between 9 am and 12 noon. Often has vacancies Thursday mornings - coffee morning for parents and toddlers

Birch Luncheon Club

The Luncheon club has just opened and is serving meals every weekday at 12.30 pm to anyone over 60. The meals cost 25p Each (two courses and a cup of tea).

Keep Fit

Every Monday at 8 pm till 9 pm. The Keep Fit Group is now buying a pair of weights.

Cubs and Scouts.

Every Wednesday Cubs start at 6.30 pm. Scouts start at 8 pm,

Birch Youth Club

7.30 till 9.30 pm. Every Thursday. Table-- tennis, Record player so bring your own records and time to talk.

LONGSIGHT / LEVENSHULME ANTI – FASCIST GROUP

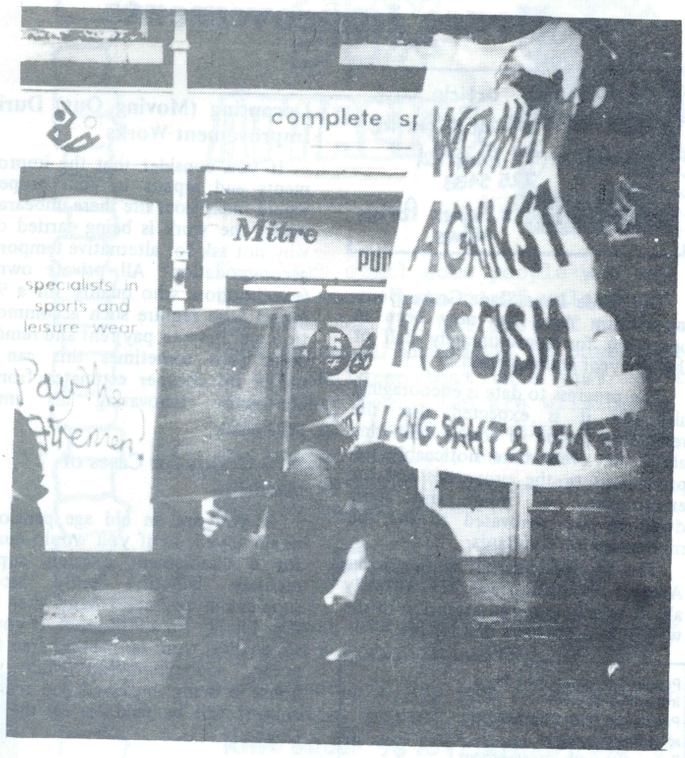
After the events of October 8th when the National Front marched through Longsight, people from all different walks of life have got together to form this group.

ACTIVITIES

Activities so far have included cleaning up slogans on walls that are offensive to coloured people (and me too-typist), holding street discussions, and arranging the children's party and dance on February 4th.

WELCOME..

Everyone is welcome to come to our meetings or join any of our activities, who care about people in this area being able to get along together and lead their own lives how they choose, without fear and the threat of being attacked.



Comments on NF March.

How can they say we don't like coloured people, these children were born in this country, we are all the same aren't we?

There is never any trouble here, it's a friendly area the races get on well together. If you live with coloured immigrants you get on well with them, it's where people don't have to live with them that they object.

They should be allowed to march but, they should be able to live together like we have done over the years. There's not many fights between the races here.

I'm well into my 70's and I knew what we went through during the war with Nazis.

They should be banned!

(ENQUIRIES TO:- 48 LANGDALE ROAD, VICTORIA PARK.)

POEM CORNER

Daffodils

Their host of golden daffodils
Were painted by teachers,
And hung around the room.
Wordworth's vision they could
not understand
They never wandered as a cloud
Fettered in chains of deprival,
They play in gutters,
chasing marbles.
Or, evading automobiles
Endeavour to skip.

T.P.

River Irwell

How murky your waters flow under Victoria Bridge
Foul'd by exploiters who raped your crystal
stream
You bear your historic role with dignity and
dream,
Of Briganties and Romans fording your depths.
Of Saxon and Norman Breasting your waves with
coracle and ship.
Loyal burgesses defying Royalist hosts assualting
the town's bridge,
And iron-shod clogs of townsfolk hurrying over
your bridge
To protest against their hard lot,
To be cudgelled and attacked by byonet and canon.
Engineers threw brick arch and iron bridge
across
Your breast,
Holding aloft iron monsters breathing smoke and
fire.
And later your path was constrained,
To flow into a man-made bed.
Marrying the seas waters with yours.
And to verify this consumation,
Sea ships carried riches in their iron depths
To you, Bride of the sea

T.P.

House improvements

The following article was written by M. Illidge from the Area Office: 49 East Rd 225 5433 reprinted from St. Agnes Parish News

The **Slade Lane/Slade Grove Housing Action Area** has now been in operation for approximately half of the five year action period.

The progress to date is encouraging, although it is expected that the remaining period of action will bring about an even more noticeable improvement to the properties and the environment as more and more dwellings are renovated to the full modernisation standards.

The total number of houses in the Area at declaration was 324, virtually all of which required attention in the way of improvement and repairs.

Properties which have been improved to date	36
Properties with improvement schemes in progess	25
Properties with improvement schemes awaiting a start	67
Properties under negotiation for acquisition by City Council	25
Private owners' recent grant applications	28
	181

Thus it can be seen that action already initiated will lead to more than 50% of the houses in the Area being improved before the third anniversary of declaration.

Increases for Home Improvement Grants

The Government has recently increased the amount of grant aid available to private owners wishing to improve their properties.

1) Improvement grants for a high standard of improvement plus repairs. The maximum grant normally available in your Area is £3,750 which is 75% of £5,000 eligible expense (instead of the old £2,400 based on 75% of £3,200 eligible expense).

The maximum grant for converting a house (of three storeys or more) into flats is £4,350 per flat which is 75% of £5,800 eligible expense (previously £2775 based on 75% of £3,700 eligible expense).

2) Intermediate grants for the installation of missing amenities, like an inside W.C., bath, wash basin, hot and cold water, plus repairs.

The maximum intermediate grant available in your Area is £2,025, which is 75% of £2,700 eligible expense (instead of the old £1,125 based on 75% of £1,500 eligible expense).

3) Special grants for the installation of standard amenities for houses in multiple occupation.

4) Repair grants available in special cases of financial hardship for the repair only of dwellings. The maximum grant available for repairs in your Area is £1,125, which is 75% of £1,500 eligible expense (instead of the old £600 based on 75% of £800 eligible expense).

Decanting (Moving Out) During Improvement Works

If you consider that the improvements and repairs to your property would make your life there unbearable whilst the work is being carried out, why not ask for alternative temporary accommodation? All private owners (except those who qualify for a 90% grant) who require such accommodation will have to pay rent and removal costs (but sometimes this can be offset by cheaper estimates from a contractor renovating an empty property).

90% Grants for Cases of Hardship

If you are an old age pensioner, unemployed, or if you would qualify for a disablement pension, supplementary benefit, family income supplement or rate rebate, then you may qualify for a 90% grant. If you do so qualify, you can obtain free temporary accommodation while your house is being improved and removal charges will be paid for by the City Council.

Why You Should Apply for A Grant

If your house is need of repair or lacks certain essential amenities, it would be worth your while applying for one of the four grants available. If the house you live in is the right size for your requirements, why move to another area with perhaps higher house prices and certainly involving removal and legal expenses, when you can carry out improvements to your property with the benefit of grant aid at the new higher levels available? Improvement is not as costly as you may think.

Getting A Grant

To find out the amount of work required to bring your property to the appropriate standard and to discuss the type of grant and level of grant aid that would be available to you, and for all details and assistance in connection with your grant application and with carrying out the approved works, call, telephone or write to the Area Office.

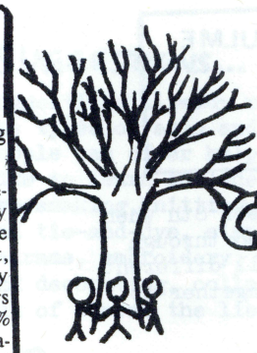
How Do You Pay Your Share?

Financial aid is available through the City Council for loans to make up the difference between the total cost of the work and the grant aid given, if you are unable to provide this finance yourself. Again, contact the Area Office.

An Alternative to a Private Improvement Grant

If the house you own is too small or too large for your needs, or too costly to repair and maintain, then why not consider selling your house to a Housing Association or to the City Council?

You can either sell your property with vacant possession when you would need to find your own new home or you can sell at a lesser so-called "investment value" and become a tenant of the Housing Association or the City Council. In either event the property will be renovated to the full improvement standard at no direct cost to yourself.



BIRCH HOUSING CO-OPERATIVE (LTD)

A FOURTH CHOICE...

There is a fourth choice which is not mentioned in Mr. Illidge's article on home improvements....this is JOIN THE BIRCH HOUSING CO-OPERATIVE. Although we are registered as a Housing Association any similarity ends with the legal definition. We are really a group of local homeowner's and tenants who have come together to form a housing co-operative. In this we are all equal members. Through it we are buying up houses, improving them according to our members' needs and collecting the rents. The difference between us and a Housing Association and the Council is that we make all the decisions and organise all the purchase and improvement arrangements ourselves, through our regular fortnightly meetings.

WORK SHARING...

The only two conditions we lay down for membership in the Co-op are that you be a local person and be prepared to share in the work of the Co-op. You don't need any special skills to be part of the Birch Co-op. We all do whatever jobs we can and learn from each other. If you become involved you could be hanging wallpaper one month and addressing envelopes or helping to organise a party the next. Everyone can contribute something. It is only through our own efforts that we exist and operate at all. On the other hand we have no one telling us what to do, though all our improvements have to get government approval.

...SHARED OWNERSHIP

By being part of our housing co-op you have the best of both worlds. You have the security of tenure as a member of the co-operative, as you share ownership of all our houses. But you do not have to lay out any of your own money to have your house improved as you do with the Home Improvement Grants. Our co-op is growing steadily. At the moment we own ten houses and we are in the process of buying nearly the same number. Our members are a pretty good cross-section of the different communities living in Longsight and we would welcome enquiries from anyone wanting to know more about the Birch Housing Co-op. Please contact any of the following:

Steve: 168 Hamilton Rd. (224-2566)
Michele: 2 Mentor St. (224-1300)
Margaret: 12 Slade Grove (224-6387)
Alix or Dot; 2 Slade Grove.

WOMEN MARCH ON MANCHESTER.

WOMEN'S TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION

On a wet winter's night a group of women and girls gathered in Longsight and set off to walk around Longsight and the Anson Estate by torchlight. Then they met up with women from Levenshulme and they all went on all the way to Piccadilly. Other contingents arrived in Piccadilly as well from other parts of the city.

The Idea behind the procession was to get some publicity about the increasing number of rapes and sex-attacks, and the fear that women and girls are experiencing wherever they go out at night.

WARNING.

Please be careful if you are travelling alone in the vicinity of Stockport Road, Devonshire Street and Plymouth Grove. Bag snatching has become rampant, and judging from a nurse's ordeal one Saturday night, you cannot expect help from a passer-by. Standing at a bus stop on Stockport Road near Devonshire Street she was accosted by a youth who stole her two bags containing money, keys, personal papers etc.

Four passers-by made absolutely no attempt to help her but just pointed out the way the lad had run. Surely the parents of the boys see that they have money etc. which is'nt theirs?

What kind of an area is this becoming? The police said it was the fourth that night and then on the Sunday another lady was accosted, but this time knocked to the floor.

One death has already occurred because of mugging. How many more before something is done about it?

We need action now!!

SEX-ATTACKS

There are still some people who say that no woman gets raped unless she asks for it, but most of us know from personal experince to ourselves or our children that this just isn't true. Very few women are willing to stay in all the time (which is what the police advise), but what can be done to lessen the danger of harrassment or sexual attack?

① FIGHT RAPE!

Some women are interested in forming a support group for women who have been raped. If you are interested in doing this, please write to:

RAPE GROUP % 109 OXFORD ROAD M/C1.

② SELF DEFENCE CLASSES.

Please see the Neighbourhood Centre page if you wish to join. The classes have not started yet and will be to suit the women interested. So don't be put off by thinking you are too old or not fit enough.

③ OTHER IDEAS...

Please write to Longsight News with your ideas.

BATTERED WOMEN AND THE NEW LAW.
(book by Anna Coote and Tess Gill)

This booklet describes how battered women can seek legal protection from men who assault them.

The laws helping battered women changed last June, so this account brings you up to date.
It costs 60p. post free from...

P.D.C.,
27, Cheshenwell Court,
London E.C.1.

For free legal advice go to the Law Centre on Stockport Road, next to Tesco or ring: 225-5111.

LONGSIGHT CLAIMANTS UNION.

LONGSIGHT CLIMANTS UNION NEWS

Longsight Cli
Longsight Claimants Uni

Longsight Claimanr SOD IT!

Longsight Claimants' Union is your local branch of the Claimants' Union We are a group of local people who are or who have been claiming the various welfare benefits allowed to us, including Supplementary, Sickness and Unemployment benefits, pensions, and even Family Income Supplements. Like most Unions we hope that our members will pay a small "sub" into our funds, but unlike most unions, this does not go to paying "officials", as, in most cases, these are people we can do without. In any case, we can't afford to pay them!

LAST YEAR...

It is now over a year since our inaugural meeting of the Claimants Union was called at St.Johns school on November 15th 1976. Since then, life for those few people who did become involved with the union has never been the same.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

During 1977 We were asked to take over the job of regional co-ordinators which had previously been done by Bolton Claimants Union. In December, we were asked to stage the National Conference of Claimants' Unions, which unfortunately we had to put on in Rusholme, as we could not get the facilities we required in Longsight. Both the co-ordination and conference were things we weren't really prepared for, but we rose to the occasion.

EVERYDAY LANGUAGE

Part of our aim is to publish information about what and how to claim in a way which the DHSS do not seem to know how to do: in everyday language which people can understand.

FRAUD MYTHS

Then there are the myths about fraud and shortage of Government money etc. For example, how many people know that only £2million is taken from the Social Security in fraud? This is about one fortieth of a penny for every pound which they pay to desparate claimants.

Compare this with the £200 million which is lost through tax evasion each year. Or with the £300 million which was not claimed in 1976 because means tests are so intimidating that people simply do not claim what is theirs by right. This includes supplementary benefit, rent and rate rebates FIS, free school meals and others.

If you would like to help us fight for a better deal, come to the Claimants Union meeting, which happens every Wednesday afternoon at 2-00pm, at 143, Hamilton Road, Longsight.

ELECTRICITY

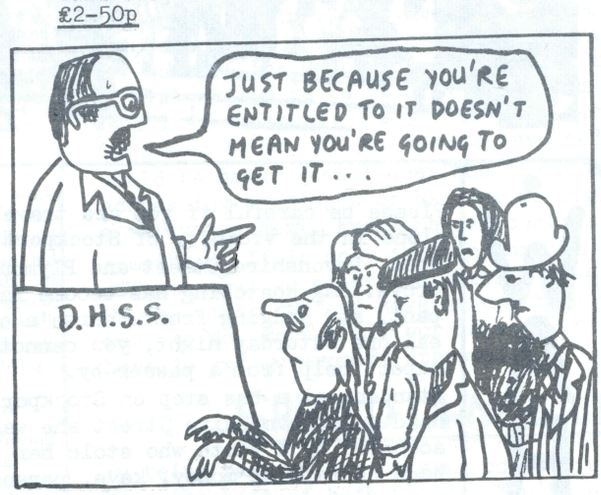
If you were on Supplementary Benefit in the week beginning 16th January, 1978, you should have received an extra £5 to help with your fuel bills. (If you didn't, write to the DHSS office and ask why not.)

However, if your electricity bill was more than £20 for the winter quarter based on a meter reading taken between 1st January and 31st March.....

YOU CAN GET MORE!!!

Work out what a quarter of your bill is. Then take away the £5 you have already received, and you can get a voucher for this amount.
For example: if your bill was for £30

30 x $\frac{1}{4}$ =£7-50p.
Take away the £5 and you are left with £2-50p



THIS IS HOW YOU CLAIM.

Take your electricity bill with your order book or giro to the office where you usually cash it. One of the Post Office workers will write you out a voucher for the amount you have worked out. Take this or send it to the place where you pay your electricity bill. Don't worry if you can't afford to pay the rest of the bill at the same time.

If you have a slot meter, make sure it is emptied between January 1st and March 31st.
You must claim before the 30th June, and cash the voucher before 31st July, 1978.

'PLAY SPACE'

Over the past few years various people have felt the need to create activities and better play facilities for children living in south Longsight.

This has happened in several ways such as the 'playhouse', Day trips, camping trips, rollerskating, swimming, etc. and several holiday playschemes, involving many local children and parents.

EASTER PLAYSCHEME

There will be a holiday playsheme during the Easter Holidays.

The timetable for the Easter playsheme is not yet planned, but it will include:

day trips, rollerskating, swimming, tug'o'war, games, making things, five-a-side football, and many other activities.

If you have any spare games, toys, paper, crayons etc., drop them round to Mike or Stef, at 19, Duncan Road.

ACTIVITIES

Over the Christmas holiday a project called 'Playspace' started in the Hamilton Road-Slade Lane area. They set out to create more activities and resources for local children- in the form of a wooden play structure and swing (with bonfires) on Duncan Road, Sunday trips to the countryside, visits to a roller skating rink and the swimming baths etc.

ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTRE

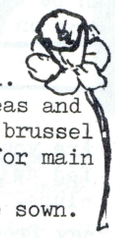
'Playspace' intends to become a user group of the Slade Lane Neighbourhood Centre and to renovate part of the building for use as an arts and crafts centre. This will be used by local children during evenings, weekends and holidays. Renovation work will be starting after the Easter holidays and 'Playspace' would appreciate any help offered.

'Playspace' will need lots and lots of helpers both for the playschemes and the renovation for the arts centre.

If you can help, please contact Mike, at 19, Duncan Road, or Stef, 100 Longden Road, Longsight.-TEL: 224 4409.

A leaflet will be distributed before the playscheme with all the details.

GARDENING CLUB



Gardening Hints for March

Sow leeks and onions if soil works well. Sow for succession carrots, lettuce, peas and spinach. Plant early potatoes and sow brussel sprouts in the open. Sow celery seed for main crop.

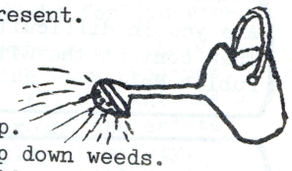
Hardy annuals and sweet peas may now be sown.

Commence pruning roses.

Prepare mint bed and sow rows of herbs.

Sow turnips towards the end of the month.

Get the lawn mower really sharp for the first cut. The lawn should be spiked and a mercuric dressing given if moss is present.



Gardening Hints for April

Plant crop potatoes 4" deep.

Thin out seedlings and keep down weeds.

Sow stocks, asters, marigolds and zinnias under glass.

Daffodils that have flowered should have seed pods removed.

Pansies and violas can be planted.

Give the lawn its first cut on a dry day. Not too short.

For further information of Longsight Gardening Club please contact Mrs June Staley, 15 Mull Avenue, Longsight M12. Behind Lime Grove Post Office.

LONGSIGHT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION...

Longsight Community Association

The above Association is still wating to move into the old library in Hayley St. Due to construction difficulties the new building, which should have been completed in January, is still unfinished. Despite lots of set backs we have still managed to give three Chistmas parties catering for 250 children, 3 visits to panto-- mines and 140 people visited Belle Vue Circus. All this was achieved by hard work and local generosity. We would like to thank all concerned.

We are sure many more local people would like to join us or start up a group. Why don't you? Please contact me at 26 Mull Avenue, Longsight. This is behind Lime Grove Post Office, or drop me a line.

You don't have to live on the new Estate to belong to the Community Association. Anybody within a two mile radius of the Public Hall is eligible.

EASTER PLAYSCEME

Meanwhile the Longsight Community Association in conjuction with the Plymouth Grove adventure Playground are planning to hold an Easter playscheme from 20th to 31st March. Each after noon there will be activities in the Public Hall. The Playground will be open and we will have trips out and other events such as the inflatable and film making.
Contact;- Evelyn Shaw, 26 Mull Avenue or the Playground workers.

Any details regarding the Pakistani Association can be obtained from Mr Aslam of the Grocers shop on Birch Lane.

Are you between 8 and 18 years old? Bored and fed up of watching TV? We have two youth clubs. The Junior one up to 13 years on Monday from 6.00pm to 8.00pm and the senior one on Thursday from 7.00pm until 10.00pm. Come along and enjoy yourself, AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

Are you in difficulties? Do you need advice? Then contact the Citizens Advice Bureau in the Public Hall.

The over 60's are full at the moment but we could start another. If you are interested contact Evelyn Armstrong 26 Mull Avenue.

Do you get bored at home with the baby all day? We have a Mum's and under 5's group every Tuesday morning from 10.00am -12 noon. You are welcome. See Lynn Trowman of 1 Markfield Ave.

Longsight Community Association

Will members and groups please note that re-enrolment will be required as from April 1st 1978. The fees are:

£3 groups
50p individual members
25p children or OAPs

Please contact the secretary:- Evelyn Armstrong 26 Mull Avenue Longsight.

Are you a moaner? Do you grumble to your neighbour or in the pub about things going wrong in the house, kids playing ball against your wall, the lack of facilities? Well don't you think it's about time you did something about it? Make your voice heard. Join the Longsight Tenants c/o Ken Strath, 2 Burdett Way, Longsight.

LONGSIGHT COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

CARNIVAL, STEELBAND, DANCING. OLDTIME MUSIC HALL, UNDER 5's, STALLS, DAYTRIPS, OVER 60's, PROCESSION, NIGHTS, RODEO + FETE, BALLOON RACE, FLOATS, DISCO, POLICE DOGS, THEATRE GROUP, ETC. ETC. ETC.

MON 27TH MARCH - SAT 8TH APRIL

(CONTACT THE PUBLIC HALL FOR MORE INFORMATION)

BINGO!?

Many of you will have read in the press that the Council have refused to let us use the Public Hall to play Bingo. This hassle has been going on for months. The police say it is legal under section 41. The Gaming Board say it is legal. The Gods in the Town Hall say that 'their' Halls cannot be used to play Bingo. We say that it's not 'their' Hall. It belongs to all of us Mancunians. Why cannot the Town Hall show us this written rule. Even their officers don't know where it is written down. It is certainly not in the letting rules and regulations.

We say cut the red tape and give people what they want. Come down to earth Councillors, and find out what your voters want. You can't know because we have been here for four years and have not even seen you yet. You can run a lottery but we cannot even run one Bingo night a week to pay you the high rents you charge for hiring the white elephant of a public hall you manage for us, the people.

SLADE LANE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

Remember the report in Longsight News in Summer last year about the first committee meeting of the Slade Lane Neighbourhood Centre? Well, a lot has happened since then.

The house on the corner of Slade Lane and Stockport Road (642 Stockport Road) has been licensed to the Centre Management Committee for use as a neighbourhood centre for the area, and is at present being improved so that hopefully, by the end of March there will be rooms available for local action groups, social groups etc. to use for meetings at reasonable charges.

When complete, the Centre will consist of one large meeting room and two small rooms downstairs, plus kitchen and toilets while upstairs there will be three medium rooms and a small store room. There is also a basement which it is hoped could be used as a centre for young people. (See our article about 'Playspace') All the rooms will be available for use by local people for community activities. And of course there is also a big garden for parties in the summer!

COME AND HAVE A LOOK

On Monday, 20th March, the Centre holds its annual general meeting at 8-00p.m. Come and see the place and join in the discussion about how the centre should be used. There will be an election for a new committee as well, to be responsible for running the centre over the next year.

The only Qualification to be on the committee is that you are a local person and interested in seeing things happen around here that are of benefit to the community.

SHOP

While the Centre building is undergoing repairs we are renting 'Witches Brew' on Slade Lane.

We sell very cheap second hand goods, clothing, furniture and odds and ends. You can also get leaflets there about rent rebates, social security etc.

Our aim is to sell goods as cheaply as we can to cover costs and save up a bit of money to furnish the Neighbourhood Centre. WE RELY ON YOU DONATING YOUR CAST-OFFS-

we can collect if it is too bulky for you to bring it in yourself. The 'phone number is: 224-1172

More volunteers to help in the shop would be very welcome.

QUESTIONAIRE

If you are interested in any of the following or have any constructive suggestions, please tick in the boxes and return to:
The Secretary,
Slade Lane Neighbourhood Centre,
c/o 'Witches Brew',
8 Slade Lane.

I am interested in:

- Nursery ☐
- Childrens Activities ☐
- Trips ☐
- Information Centre ☐
- Longsight News ☐
- Shop ☐
- Photography Workshop ☐
- English classes ☐
- Self defence for women ☐
- Helping with driving ☐
- Helping with typing ☐
- Doing the garden ☐
- Claimants Union ☐
  (welfare and National Insurance benefits)
- Womens health group ☐
- Organising Social events ☐
- Decorating and odd jobs for old people ☐
- Decorating the Centre ☐
- Other ideas..... ☐
- ..... ☐
- Adult Literacy ☐
- Over 60's club ☐

Name:.....

Address:.....

NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE VAN.

CHEAP REMOVALS

Rate: £1-50p per hour + 10p per mile.
Arrangements made with Social Security
Phone 224-1172 or call at 'Witches Brew'
8 Slade Lane.

EMERGENCY NIGHT PHONE

If you have an urgent problem at night, phone

273-1835

Between 8p.m. and 2a.m. This service is run by volunteers from advice centres throughout Manchester in conjunction with the Law Centre.

FRIDAY 17th MARCH - 5p - 11am - 7p.m.

EASTER FAIR

TO DAISY BANK ROAD.

TOYS, CANDLES, PLAQUES, BAGS, CUSHIONS, CHOCOLATE EASTER EGGS.

RAFFLE - TOMBOLA - BRANTUB - REFRESHMENTS

LONGSIGHT NEWS STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP WITH TYPING, PASTING, AND SELLING THE PAPER.

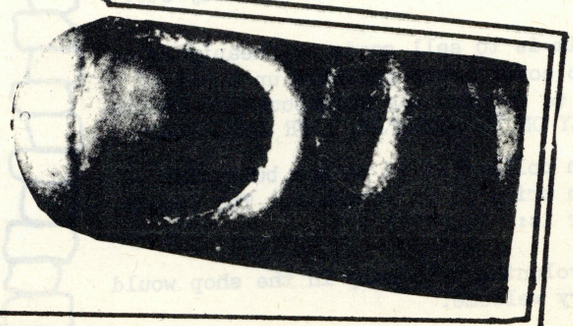
CONTACT VIA: 642 STOCKPORT ROAD.
(SLADE LANE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE)

SLADE LANE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

announce their
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:-

March 20th, 8p.m.
At: The Neighbourhood Centre,
642, Stockport Road,

All residents of Slade Lane/Hamilton Road area, welcome. Come and see the new centre tell us how it should be used, and elect a new management committee for the next 12 months.



APPEAL!

NEEDED AT THE CENTRE:

FURNITURE: Chairs, tables, cupboards, shelves.
TOYS AND PLAY EQUIPMENT for NURSERY.
PLAY MATERIALS: for older children.
FLOOR COVERINGS.
GARDEN TOOLS: and plants!
CLEANING EQUIPMENT: brooms, buckets, mops, vacuum cleaner etc.
WASTE PAPER: to raise funds.
PAINT, BRUSHES AND WALLPAPER: if you have any to spare.

Please have a word with the helpers in the shop on Slade Lane if you have any of these to spare, WITCHES BREW.

PUBLIC NOTICE....

Manchester Corporation (General Powers Act 1971 Part V, Night Cafes.

TAKE NOTICE THAT I, Nazrul Islam, the Proprietor of the TAKHDIR RESTAURANT applied on the 31st January 1978 to the Manchester Corporation for registration of the Premises TAKHDIR RESTAURANT, 794-796 Stockport Road, Longsight, Manchester 12 as a night cafe.

The effect of such a registration should be to permit the opening of the premises for the sale of refreshments to the public between the hours of 10-00pm and 5-00am subject to such conditions as the corporation may impose.
And further take notice that any person who subject to such a registration being granted may object to the said application in writing to the Town Clerk, Town Hall, Manchester. A copy of the said objection must be sent to me/us within the same period.

SIGNED: N.ISLAM.